

EQIP 2009 Wildlife Habitat Ranking Tool**

Land Uses: Crop, Forest, Pasture, Wildlife

**EQIP 2009 Wildlife Evaluation Tool Criteria: Producer must implement 395, 644 or 645 as part of the contract.

National Priorities:

Questions:

Number	Question	Points
1	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction of non-point source pollution, such as nutrients, sediment, pesticides, excess salinity in impaired watersheds with total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) where available, groundwater contamination or point sources such as contamination from confined animal feeding operations?	1
2	Will the treatment you intend to implement for water conservation or irrigation efficiency using EQIP result in a considerable reduction in water use?	1
3	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction of emissions, such as particulate matter, nitrogen oxides (NOx), volatile organic compounds, and ozone precursors and depleters that contribute to air quality impairment violations of National Ambient Air Quality Standards?	1
4	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction in soil erosion and sedimentation from unacceptable levels on agricultural land?	1
5	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable increase in the promotion of at-risk species habitat conservation?	10
6	Will the treatment that you intend to implement using EQIP result in considerable benefits to residue management, nutrient management, air quality management, invasive species management, pollinator habitat, and animal carcass management technology or pest management?	1
7	Will the treatment that you intend to implement using EQIP result in energy conservation benefits?	1
Total Points		16

State Issues:

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	Will at least three acres of new habitat be established?	9
	2	Is the site a potential habitat for at-risk, Threatened or Endangered species as evidenced by known occurrences or suggested by PNDI search?	15
	3	Is or will there be at least a 30 ft. wide un-cropped and/or un-grazed vegetated buffer around fields, wetlands and along streams that will be managed for upland wildlife habitat?	11
	4	Is the planned grass community going to be a mixture of native grasses, forbs and wildflowers?	16
	5	Will livestock be excluded from streams and/or wetlands except for stable crossings?	10
	6	Does the applicant have a wildlife habitat management plan?	17
	7	Is the producer a Limited Resource Farmer based on the USDA online self determination tool?	14
Maximum Points: 92 Total Points			92

Selected Resource Concerns and Practices*:

Practice	Fish and Wildlife: Inadequate Cover/Shelter	Fish and Wildlife: Inadequate Space	Fish and Wildlife: T&E Species: Declining Species, Species of Concern	Fish and Wildlife: Threatened and Endangered Fish and Wildlife Species
Access Control (472)	X	X	X	X
Brush Management (314)	X	X	X	X
Conservation Cover (327)	X	X	X	X
Critical Area Planting (342)	X	X	X	X
Early Successional Habitat Development/Management (647)	X	X	X	X
Fence (382)	X	X	X	X
Field Border (386)	X	X	X	X
Fish Passage (396)	X	X	X	X
Forest Stand Improvement (666)	X	X	X	X
Hedgerow Planting (422)	X		X	X
Obstruction Removal (500)		X	X	X
Pasture and Hay Planting (512)	X	X	X	X
Riparian Forest Buffer (391)	X	X	X	X
Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)	X	X	X	X
Stream Crossing (578)	X		X	X
Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)	X	X	X	X
Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (395)	X	X	X	X
Tree and Shrub Establishment (612)	X	X	X	X
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)	X		X	X
Watering Facility (614)	X			
Wetland Creation (658)	X	X	X	X
Wetland Enhancement (659)	X	X	X	X
Wetland Restoration (657)	X	X	X	X
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)	X		X	X

***Practices listed above may have changed. Check with your local field office or EQIP Program Manager. See the EQIP Program Website at <http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/index.html>**